

## Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 106352

FOR AMB EASUM

FOLLOWING REPEAT NDJAMENA 1631 ACTION STATE ABIDJAN ACCRA  
CAIRO DIA KHARTOUM KINSHASA LAGOS LIBREVILLE NIAMEY PARIS  
TEHRAN TRIPOLI YAOUNDE APR 26.

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L NDJAMENA 1631

PARIS FOR MURPHY

E.O.11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINS CD  
SUBJECT: SECURITY SITUATION: SITREP 9

REF: NDJAMENA 1610

SUMMARY. SITUATION LOOKS BRIGHTER TODAY. SUPERVISORY  
CEASE-FIRE TEAM TO BEGIN WORK IMMEDIATELY. FRENCH CALL  
OFF SALAL ATTACK. ALL QUIET IN THE SOUTH.

1. ALTHOUGH CONSIDERABLE TENSENESS REMAINS, THE  
ATMOSPHERE IN NDJAMENA HAS IMPROVED MARKEDLY  
IN THE LAST 24 HOURS. THE COMBINATION OF THE ARRIVAL  
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PAGE 02 STATE 106352

OF THE MILITARY MIXED TEAM TO SUPERVISE THE CEASE-FIRE  
THE ARRIVAL OF FURTHER FRENCH REINFORCEMENTS AND THE  
CONFIDENT RESPONSE BY THE GOC TO FROLINAT'S GENERAL  
STRIKE CALL ALL CONTRIBUTED9

2. SUDANESE VICE PRESIDENT ABDOUL GASSIM AND THE  
MILITARY DELEGATIONS FROM SUDAN, NIGER AND LIBYA

ARRIVED YESTERDAY, AS WELL AS 23 LIBYAN SUPPORT PERSONNEL AND A NUMBER OF VEHICLES SENT BY LIBYA TO HELP THE TEAM CARRY OUT ITS WORK. AGOC COMMUNIQUE PUBLISHED TODAY IN THE INFOTCHAD CITED THE PRESENCE OF HISSEN HABRE AMONG THOSE ARRIVING WITH THE SUDANESE DELEGATION, STATING THIS WAS HIS FIRST OFFICIAL ARRIVAL IN NDJAMENA.

3. FRENCH AMBASSADOR DALLIER SHOWED ME AN ACCOUNT OF HIS CONVERSATION WITH PRESIDENT MALLOUX THIS MORNING IN WHICH HE QUOTED THE PRESIDENT AS SAYING VP ABIOUL GASSIM HAD CARRIED A MESSAGE FROM MALLOUM TO QADHAFI PROTESTING CEASE-FIRE VIOLATION BY FROLINAT AND EXPRESSING CHADIAN WILLINGNESS TO COMPLY WITH THE SEPHA AGREEMENT. QADHAFI'S REPLY ACCORDING TO DALLIER, SAID IT WOULD BE ALL RIGHT FOR FRENCH TROOPS TO REMAIN IN CHAD UNTIL AFTER CEASE-FIRE CONDITIONS HAD BEEN NEGOTIATED AT THE JUNE 7 SEBHA III CONFERENCE. PRIOR TO THIS FROLINAT SHOULD PULL BACK FROM ARADA, GUERADA, AND SALAL TO THE POSITIONS IT HELD AT FAYA LARGEAU AND OUM CHALABA FOLLOWING THE LAST SEBHA MEETING. THE CEASE-FIRE TEAM WOULD THEN ESTABLISH FOUR SUPERVISORY POSTS AT ABECHÉ, NDJAMENA, KORO-TORO AND FAYA. (THE INFOTCHAD COMMUNIQUE SPELLS OUT THE AGREEMENT IN A SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT FASHION BY SAYING QUOTE THE COMMITTEE WILL PROCEED AT FIRST BY SPLITTING THE SUDANESE, NIGERIAN AND LIBYAN OFFICERS AMONG THE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 106352

CITIES OF NDJAMENA, FAYA, SALALA AND ARADA TO OBSERVE THE APPLICATION OF THE CEASE-FIRE UNQUOTE. IT ALSO SAYS THE PRESENCE OF FRENCH MILITARY QUOTE IS THE AFFAIR OF THE CHADIAN GOVERNMENT...NEVERTHELESS IT INVITES THE GOC TO MAKE NO FURTHER APPEAL TO THE FRENCH MILITARY AND ASKS FROLINAT TO STOP PROVOKING QUARREL UNQUOTE.)

4. FRENCH DCM LACOMBE INFORMED ME THAT YESTERDAY'S ATTACK ON SALAL WAS CALLED OFF AFTER AN INITIAL ARTILLERY EXCHANGE AND FRENCH FORCES WERE PULLED BACK TO AWAIT ACTION BY THE CEASE-FIRE TEAM. A LARGE NUMBER OF FRENCH TROOPS REMAIN IN THE SALAL/MOUSSORO THEATER, HOWEVER. AMBASSADOR DALLIER ESTIMATES THESE AT 450, WHILE TWO FRENCH MILITARY SOURCES PLACE THEM AT ABOUT 600.

5. THE SITUATION IN THE SOUTHERN PART OF CHAD IS GENERALLY QUIET. PEACE CORPS DOCTOR CARY ENGLEBERG RETURNED LAST NIGHT FROM AN EXTENSIVE TRIP AND REPORTED THAT BOUSSO, BONGOR, DOBA, KELO, KOUMRA, LAI, MOUNDOU AND SARH WERE ALL CALM. PROTESTANT

MISSIONARY DIRECTOR STROSCIEN HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH THE MISSIONARIES IN A NUMBER OF CITIES AND REPORTS THAT ALL IS QUIET IN THOSE STATIONS. DCM LACOMBE WAS IN TELEPHONE CONTACT THIS MORNING WITH THE HONORARY CONSUL IN OUNDOU WHO STATES THAT THINGS HAVE RETURNED TO NORMAL IN THAT CITY. INTERIOR DIRECTOR GENERAL D'JITOG INFORMED ME THIS MORNING THAT THE DISTURBANCE IN OUNDOU WAS CAUSED BY 600 MOSLEMS PROTESTING AGAINST GOVERNMENT AUTHORITY. THE EUROPEANS WHO WERE INJURED WERE NOT TARGETED AS SUCH BUT GOT IN THE WAY OF THE MOB WHEN THEY VISITED THE PREFECTURE. HE STATES THE GOC HAS REASSERTED ITS AUTHORITY AND CALM HAS RETURNED THROUGHOUT THE SOUTH.

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PAGE 04 STATE 106352

6. D'JITOG ALSO SAYS THAT THE GOVERNMENT IS FIRMLY IN CONTROL IN NDJAMENA AND THE FORCES OF ORDER ARE TAKING ALL NECESSARY STEPS TO INSURE THAT THERE ARE NO UNDESIRABLE EVENTS TOMORROW OR FRIDAY. THE CSM LAST NIGHT BROADCAST A COMMUNIQUE TAKING OFFICIAL NOTICE OF FROLINAT'S CALL FOR A GENERAL STRIKE ON APRIL 27 AND 28. THE COMMUNIQUE TOOK PARTICULAR NOTE OF THE THREAT TO ANYONE, WHO QUOTE REFUSED TO RESPECT THE ORDERS GIVEN UNQUOTE. IN ITS REPLY THE CSM INVITED THE POPULATION TO CONTINUE ITS NORMAL DAILY ACTIVITIES AND SAID THAT MEASURES WERE BEING TAKEN TO GUARANTEE THE SECURITY OF PEOPLE AND THEIR POSSESSIONS. IT WARNED THAT ANY DISTURBANCE OF PUBLIC ORDER OR ATTEMPT TO INTERFERE WITH THE FREE EXERCISE OF ACTIVITIES BY CITIZENS WOULD BE PUT DOWN VIGOROUSLY.

7. FRENCH DEPENDENTS ARE BEING EVACUATED FROM BOL TO NDJAMENA, BUT FRENCH DIRECTOR OF ASSISTANCE BELORGEY INFORMED ME THAT ALL FRENCH TECHNICAL ASSISTANTS WILL REMAIN ON THE JOB. THE FRENCH EMBASSY WILL REMAIN OPEN TOMORROW BUT EMPLOYEES WILL BE GIVEN THE OPTION OF REMAINING HOME, EXCEPT FOR KEY PERSONNEL SUCH AS DOCTORS AND THOSE IN PUBLIC UTILITIES. SCHOOLS REMAIN CLOSED IN NDJAMENA BUT HAVE REOPENED THROUGHOUT THE SOUTH. AMBASSADOR DALLIER IS PERMITTING EARLY DEPARTURE TO FRANCE ON VACATION OF ANY DEPENDENTS WHO NORMALLY WOULD LEAVE DURING THE SUMMER, BUT DCM LACOMBE SAYS THAT FAMILIES WITH SCHOOL CHILDREN ARE BEING TOLD THAT NDJAMENA SCHOOLS MOST LIKELY WILL REOPEN ON TUESDAY AND ENCOURAGEMENT IS BEING GIVEN TO HAVE STUDENTS FINISH THE SCHOOL YEAR.

COMMENT. WE HAVE BRIEFED ALL AMERICAN PERSONNEL,  
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PAGE 05 STATE 106352

INCLUDING PEACE CORPS, AND HAVE SUGGESTED THAT  
DEPENDENTS REMAIN AT HOME TOMORROW AND FRIDAY.  
EMPLOYEES WHO DO NOT COME TO WORK WILL NOT BE  
PENALIZED. UNDP RES REP HARPER IS ISSUING THE SAME  
INSTRUCTIONS. THE TWO PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS IN BOL  
WILL COME OUT TOMORROW AND THE NEXT DAY ON THE  
AIRCRAFT CHARTERED TO BRING FRENCH DEPENDENTS TO NDJAMENA.  
VOLUNTEERS FROM BONGOR ARRIVED LAST NIGHT IN NDJAMENA.  
PEACE CORPS STAFF MEMBERS ARE NOW IN THE SOUTH VISITING  
OTHERS.

OUR ASSESSMENT OF YESTERDAY REMAINS VALID IN THAT  
THE GOVERNMENT IS ON TOP OF THE SITUATION FOR THE MOMENT  
BUT THAT ITS CONTINUED EXISTENCE DEPENDS TOTALLY ON  
FRENCH SUPPORT. AS OF TODAY, WERE I A BETTING MAN,  
I'D GIVE SOME ODDS THAT THINGS WILL REMAIN  
REASONABLY QUIET UNTIL THE JUNE 7 SEBHA CONFERENCE  
IF WE GET THROUGH THE NEXT FEW DAYS. DALIMER UNQUOTE  
VANCE

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